

Don - A careful rereading of this item indicates to me that nothing really new was taking place but I thought I would still send it on to you for your files.

Bob Davis

Russia, U. S. Monitored Troop Shifts in Crisis

Potsdam Pact in Effect During Cuba;
Broader Arrangement Now Hoped For

By EARL H. VOSS

Star Staff Writer

Soviet and American military missions checked each other's troop movement in East and West Germany during the Cuban crisis, it was disclosed today.

William C. Foster, chief of the United States Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, told a world-wide Voice of America radio audience he hopes Russia now will agree to "broaden" this arrangement to reduce further the risk of war.

A small team of American military observers traveled by helicopter in the East Berlin area and visited other points in East Germany, Mr. Foster said, to verify that Russia was not massing its forces for a counter move against West Berlin.

At the same time a Russian team observed Western troop activities in West Germany from a base in Frankfurt.

The arrangement for reciprocal checks on troop movements in East and West Germany was made in the Potsdam agreements of 1945, Mr. Foster said, and has been operating quietly ever since.

In the general disarmament negotiations just reopened at Geneva, Mr. Foster said, he hopes the conferees can return to previous Soviet proposals for stationing ground control posts at harbors, railroad centers, airports and highway crossings to check troop movements.

Improving communications among the world's major powers in time of crisis is another

area in which the United States hopes for agreement with Russia at Geneva, Mr. Foster said.

Communications between President Kennedy and Soviet Premier Khrushchev during the Cuban crisis were good, but they "could have been better," Mr. Foster commented.

There is room for improvement "in the speed and direct nature of it," he added, "and the ability to call attention to what might be misinterpreted to be an attack."

He indicated the United States will ask for a conference of scientists to explore the "black box" method of detecting underground nuclear tests if the Soviet Union formally raises the issue in the nuclear test ban talks in Geneva.

According to the "black box" theory, sealed instruments could be placed at many points underground in the Soviet Union, the United States and other testing areas to record suspicious disturbances which could be nuclear tests.

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